

SATURDAY, JULY 8, 1876.]

(208) [CONFIDENTIAL.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PANJAB,

NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES,

POUDH, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES,

Received up to 1st July, 1876.

POLITICAL.

GENERAL.

The *Aligarh Institute Gazette* of the 23rd June observes that natives in their loyalty to the English Government stand unsurpassed by men of its own race and creed, and are equally alive with Englishmen to the inestimable value of British rule. All the great native societies and associations take every opportunity of declaring that British rule is a perfect god-send to India. The people of this country do fully appreciate and feel the blessings of British rule which never fell to their lot under former governments, and repose a very deep faith in English love of justice. But this love on the part of the people cannot long continue intact when Government begins to suspect their loyalty and show partiality towards its own nation.

The writer then goes on to say that in reference to the case of Private McGrath all the natives had their eyes fixed upon the High Court, and anxiously waited to see a display of fair play. But they have been seriously disappointed in their expectations. They never thought that such a criminal

would escape with impunity; that such a designing and malignant murderer would be held a lunatic or a drunkard.

The article ends with the remark that if Government does not take due notice of this matter, English justice will be indelibly tarnished. However insignificant this matter may be in the eyes of the Government, it will greatly dishearten and discourage the people, because it cannot fail to widen the distinction between the European and the native.

The *Nasir-ul-Akhbār* of the 21st June, quoting the *Kashf-ul-Akhbār*, Bombay, adverts to the murder cases of Private McGrath at Sháhjahanpur, and of Major Hall in Guzerat; and asks Government to adopt some measures which may deter Europeans from killing natives.

The *Anand Lahari* of the 23rd June, referring to the murder of three natives at Sháhjahanpur by Private McGrath, states that no year passes in which one or two similar incidents do not occur, and the murderer acquitted on some pretext or other. The writer quotes some instances to bear out his remarks. An Englishman (Major Hall) killed three natives in Guzerat; and the punishment inflicted on him was that he was sent to England at public expense on plea of insanity.

Another Englishman is said while hunting to have shot down one or two natives at Simla like beasts of prey. An Englishman beat his wife to death, and escaped with a trifling fine of Rs. 20, death being ascribed to some previous disease.

A correspondent of the *Vakil-i-Hindustán* of the 24th June acknowledges his gratitude to Mr. Lyall, who has lately expressed his sympathy with the natives of India through this paper. The writer laments the deplorable degeneracy of the natives, which caused by long foreign yoke has destroyed all ideas of national liberty. The loss of native rule is attributed to civil dissensions and want of unity. The writer also hints at the harsh and discourteous behaviour of Englishmen as a rule.

towards the natives. In the time of the Sudder Diwani Adalat men of noble families and of great experience were sent out to govern this country, while now the case is just the reverse. Young civilians of twenty-two or twenty-three years of age are appointed to rule over the people, and entrusted with the management of most difficult state affairs.

He suggests that there are many Toder Mulls among the natives at the present time, if Government only wishes to utilize them.

The *Rahbara-i-Hind* of the 24th June in a long editorial discusses the rudeness and unreasonableness of an act of the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. C. R. Hawkins, of Umritsar, towards a respectable Jagirdar. The particulars of the case are these. The Jagirdar is said to be a man of English education and good manners. He went into Mr. C. R. Hawkins's house (on a friendly visit) with his English boots on. Mr. Hawkins, so long as he was unaware of this breach of etiquette, behaved towards him with great courtesy, but seeing the Jagirdar's shoes abruptly left the room. He then sent a word to the Jagirdar through his servant not to come again into his house with his shoes on. The Jagirdar greatly resented this insult, and the more so as it was conveyed through a servant, and left the house in disgust. The editor asks the Panjab Government to enquire into this affair, and to take steps to effect a reconciliation between the Deputy Commissioner and the Jagirdar.

It is further asked, with an expression of surprise, how the example of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, of good manners and courtesy towards the natives, has proved ineffectual in influencing the conduct of some hard-hearted Englishmen.

The writer attaches great importance to this act of the Deputy Commissioner, on the ground that all acts of such high officers whether private or public are regarded as public.

The *Zabih-i-Hindustan* of the 24th June notices with approbation the censure conveyed by his correspondent on the Talukdars of Oudh for their love of luxury and entire reliance upon their khandars for the management of their estates. The writer advises them to look themselves after their own affairs and the interests of their dependents.

The *Nahr-ul-Akhbar* of the 21st June recommends the following matters to the consideration of the new Governor-General:—An extension and improvement of education in vernacular languages; the devising of measures to promote friendly intercourse between natives and Europeans, and thus to draw the bonds of union closer between them; extension of branch railways in all directions; institution of (native) *panchais* or arbitrations for the decision of cases; English officers should only be appointed to carry on the executive duties, and to look after the peace of the country. The editor argues that the arbitration system would greatly satisfy respectable natives by raising them in the estimation of their countrymen, and also ensure greater justice; a great deal of work being thus transferred from Government officers to arbitration courts, the state expenditure would also be curtailed.

EUROPEAN.

The *Oudh Akhbar* of the 28th June has a long article on the conduct of Russia, Germany, and Austria, in connection with the affairs of Turkey. The editor picks holes in European civilization and religious toleration, inasmuch as the three above-mentioned Christian states are said to have instigated the insurgents in Turkey to rebel against the Sultan, and to have given them all manner of assistance during the war. It is further added that these three powers had contemplated a division of the dominions of Turkey among themselves. They are asked to abandon these mean designs and to endeavour to restore peace in Turkey. England is exhorted to interfere and settle the matter amicably, and thus to put a stop to bloodshed.

The *Rajputana Social Science Congress* of the 23rd June speaking on the same subject states that British men-of-war are about to start to aid Turkey, and that the Turkish armies and ships of war are also being collected near the Black Sea. The writer waits to see in what direction the war will break out; how the evil schemes of the northern powers to partition Turkey will be frustrated, and the standards of England and Turkey wave victorious throughout the world.

NATIVE STATES.

A correspondent of the *Khair-Khuda-i-'Alam* of the 23rd June reports that Khalifa Muhammad Hussan is making great exertions to obtain the regency of Patiala, and is said to have spent about twenty-five lakhs of rupees of public money to succeed in his wishes. The Khalifa has hit upon the profitable scheme of imposing an income-tax upon the people at the rate of Rs. 2-8-0 per cent. for recovering the money expended in the celebration of the funeral ceremonies of the late Maharaja. The writer wonders at the ingenuity of this measure, which will bring in more money than the sum actually spent.

The *Márwár Gazette* of the 19th June, referring to a recent case of dacoity in mauza Khartha, ilaqa Deogarh in Mewar, in which a marriage procession was plundered by a gang of robbers, speaks of the prevalence of dacoity in Dolatgarh. The dacoits are said to belong to the *Mir* tribe of *Mugra*.

The *Vakil-i-Hindustan* of the 24th June reports, on the authority of his correspondent, a daring robbery committed in the house of a Brahmin in Kasba Charawal Khatri Jagir Jeypur, which stands in close vicinity to the police thana. The Brahmin and his father were killed by the robbers in the affray that ensued. The footsteps of the robbers could be distinctly traced up to *Thana*—a place said to be inhabited by the Jeypur *sauwars*, but no measures were taken by the Police to find out the offenders and the matter was hushed up. The

other with attention of the Agent to the Governor-General, Hyderabad, to the frequent occurrence of such acts of violence and outrage in the Jeypur State.

The *Urdu Akhbār* (Akola) of the 24th June states that Maharaja Scindia wishes that a portion of the Jhānsi territory should be ceded to him, and it was with this object that he lately paid a visit to the Viceroy at Simla.

The *Akhbār-i-'Alam* of the 15th June expresses his surprise at the unpleasant discussion which ensued between the Government of India and the Haidarabad Durbar on the refusal of the Nizam to go to Bombay for the reception of the Prince of Wales. The Nizam was unable at the time to undertake such a long journey on account of illness, and this fact was even admitted by the Residency medical officer. But then it is a very great anomaly that the Maharaja of Nepal and the Amir Sher Ali Khan, of Cabul, never stirred out of their dominions to receive the Prince, and that not a word was ever said against their conduct. Nay the former did not even pay a visit to the Prince when he was in Nepal; and the latter, who came to Umballa in 1867 to see the late Lord Mayo, did not even come to Lahore to meet the Prince. From all this it is apparent that in estimation of the Government of India the Nizam is held of lower rank than the Maharaja of Nepal and the Amir of Afghanistan.

The *Qudh Akhbār* of the 30th June in its correspondence column notices the oppressions exercised by the Thakur of Kamsan, Jodhpur, upon the people. He is said to extort confessions from suspected persons by inflicting excruciating tortures in case of theft, &c.

CABUL AND CENTRAL ASIA.

A Sialkote correspondent of the *Qudh Akhbār* of the 25th June writes that a caravan of two hundred merchants, returning from Candahar laden with merchandise, is said to have been plundered by dacoits, some of whom have been arrested.

and are in the custody of the Amir of Cabul. The correspondent recommends the adoption of some very stringent and efficient measures to prevent the recurrence of such daring robberies.

The *Muir Gazette* of the 28th June reports that the pay of the Persian army is in arrears for several months, and that the troops are starving. The Shah would find himself in a very dangerous and critical position if an enemy should take this opportunity to invade his dominions.

ADMINISTRATIVE (GENERAL).

The *Khair Khwah-i-Hindustan* of the 24th June, after making some preliminary remarks as to the justice, wisdom, and foresight exhibited by English laws and regulations, which have nothing in view but the well-being and welfare of the country, deprecates very strongly the rule by which doctors (who are Superintendents of Jails) are empowered to flog prisoners within jail precincts. Flogging is in reality as severe and grave a punishment as imprisonment for life or hanging. Even during the Mogul rule no one was ever flogged without the special command of the emperor. Very strict, thorough, and systematic enquiries are made into offences which seem to deserve the two latter punishments by the Magistrate and the Judge. The Judge is also aided by able and experienced assessors, and records the proceedings of the case, and his judgment is subject to confirmation by the Chief Court. This being the case as regards life-imprisonment and capital punishment, it is surely a very great anomaly that doctors possessing no knowledge of the law are entrusted with summary powers to flog prisoners, as their fancy chooses, for such slight offences as grinding an insufficient quantity of grain, &c., &c. The editor ends by observing that Government should consider the matter and withdraw these powers altogether from the doctors.

A correspondent of the *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 27th June takes exception to the policy of Government in not observing

the religious prejudices of Hindu prisoners in jails. It is said that they are obliged to use *maslak* water which of course their religion forbids; so that on their release from prison they are not received into their caste until they have performed certain expiatory and purifying ceremonies. Thus, poor persons who cannot afford the necessary expenses are obliged to live apart from their family for a long time. The writer calls upon the Panjab Government to remove this evil, and argues that better arrangements can be made without putting Government to additional expense. Government would at once benefit the poorer classes, and acquire the good will of the community.

A correspondent of the *Rohilkhand Akhbar* of the 21st June finds fault with certain measures of Government which though intended for the good of the country have turned out to be its bane. First as regards English education, civilization has no doubt been spread by it among the people, but it has also indirectly tended to add to their poverty. All persons after obtaining a little knowledge of English in a school look out for Government service, but failing in their efforts, because Government cannot provide employment for all, give up their father's trade. English education thus makes many poor and wretched. Another consequence of this has been the decrease and neglect of all trades and native manufactures. Thus the more the English education extends, the more would the country be undone. Secondly, as to vaccination. Vaccinators being of low caste, illiterate, and ill-paid are said to do their work in a very perfunctory way. Their chief aim being to vaccinate as large a number of children as possible; they foolishly vaccinate the weak and the diseased by force, and these cases often end fatally. Thus people naturally begin to look with horror and disgust upon vaccination.

Thirdly, the writer states that such charitable institutions as hospitals and dispensaries have failed to accomplish the object which Government had in view in establishing them.

Instead of being a source of comfort to the poor they often are their ruin. Patients are often made to eat food dressed by a sweeper, which would be disliked even by an Englishman, and thus, on their recovery, they become excommunicated from their caste. Moreover, the poor are not tended with due care and attention by the medical subordinates, so that an hospital has come to be regarded by the ignorant villagers as a place where patients are killed by doctors and their property appropriated.

English medicines do not suit native constitutions and are therefore not willingly taken. Thus the sum of money spent on these institutions, which is directly raised from the people by taxation, does not produce any proportionate good.

The *Rahbar-i-Hind* of the 24th June in a long article complains of the heavy octroi duties levied in Umritsar, and condemns Munshi Paras Rām, the tahsildār (or collector) of octroi duties, for his harshness in exacting them. The rates of duties on cardamums and vermilion are said to be quite disproportionate to their value. Even things of very small value, carried by persons for sale into the city on their heads, do not escape the octroi duty. Paras Rām is a very ill-tempered man, and rough and uncivil in his behaviour towards those whom business brings in contact with him. He will have everything weighed, and never rely upon the word of a tradesman, and thus puts them to the unnecessary expense and trouble of unloading and loading again their carts. He never grants refunds, though the article on which duty was paid be for re-export. The trade of Umritsar has thus passed to Delhi; and the tahsildār should be made to take his pension, or be transferred.

The same paper severely censures the conduct of Rai Kulian Singh, a member of the Umritsar Municipal Committee and Honorary Magistrate, for his abusing every one on the least provocation, and recommends his removal from those offices.

A newspaper correspondent of the *Myre* of the 29th June, referring to para. 14, section 10, Act VII. of 1870, which lays down that the first application (other than a petition containing a criminal charge or information) for the summons of a witness or other person to attend either to give evidence or produce a document shall not be chargeable with any fee, wants to know whether a similar application in the case of an appeal to produce evidence by either party should be chargeable with any fee or not. In the opinion of the correspondent no fee should be paid, because the Stamp Act is applicable to all the courts, both appellate and subordinate ones. He prays the Commissioner of Stamps to issue a distinct and clear ruling on the point.

EDUCATIONAL.

A correspondent of the *Vakil-i-Hindustan* of the 24th June devotes a very long article to expose the injustice of an abuse which has crept into the Educational Department of Oudh. The abuse is certainly a very ugly stain upon the department and mars all its beauty. The particulars may be thus briefly described. When the usual annual examinations of schools in a district are over, a meeting is held in the chief town of that district to distribute prizes among the deserving boys, and to bestow rewards upon the teachers whose schools have been successful. To this the Deputy Commissioner of the district and other European and native gentlemen are invited by the Deputy Inspector of Schools. In these literary proceedings there is no harm. Unfortunately objectionable things also take place, such as the dancing of *randis* (dancing girls), the antics of *bhānds* (a class of native actors and buffoons by profession), the display of fire-works. Worse still the money comes from cutting the pay of the *Halkabandi* teachers at the rate of two annas a rupee per annum. This is a heavy tax on men who, as a rule, receive less than Rs. 7 a month. The evil does not end here. An extraordinary subscription list is also circulated among them by the Deputy Inspector of Schools to supplement the sum raised by

this taxation, and the teachers must ~~not~~ contribute under fear of incurring the displeasure of their superior. This evil practice has probably not the sanction of Mr. Thomson, the Inspector of Schools. It should be stopped: for if continued the rate of contribution should be lowered from two annas to half anna; and the collections should go to boys in the shape of small prizes for skill in gymnastic exercises.

The *Khair Khwah-i-Oudh* of the 26th June, adverting to the circular recently issued in Berar forbidding school teachers to pay tuition-fees of their poor pupils out of their own pockets, mentions it with approbation: because it will tend to impede the rapid progress of learning among the natives. The vast increase of English-knowing men has considerably lowered the rate of pay: the services of a man which could not be obtained for Rs. 500, 55 years ago, can now be got for Rs. 50.

The *Rohilkhand Akhbār* of the 24th June points out the inadvisability of doing away with a fixed course of English literature for the entrance examination of the Calcutta University. The Syndicates have simply removed the very delicate and important task of making selections for the entrance examination candidates from their own shoulders, and laid it upon certain educational officers of Bengal whose selections are taught in all the schools. The object which they had in view by the introduction of the change has also necessarily failed, because it is quite impossible for a boy of 16 years of age to obtain a general acquaintance with the current literature of the day, and a fair command over a language which in its construction and idiom is entirely at variance with his mother-tongue. Further, the questions set by the University Examiners are generally on English grammar, and do not require a greater knowledge than was attainable under the old system.

The writer suggests that in order that the charge of incompetency in English, which at present attaches to college and school students, may be entirely removed—an intermediate examination between the Entrance and First Arts should be

instituted to test the ability of the candidates in English language and literature only. This will give them an opportunity of devoting their attention exclusively to English for a certain period of time under the tuition of good English professors, and will not fail to produce far more satisfactory results.

The *Albert Gazette* of the 23rd June reports the establishment of a Muhammadan Committee by the name of *Anjuman Akhwan-ul-safa* at Georjānwāla under the auspices of Shaikh Muhammad Nasir-ad-din, the *Mansif*. The object which the institution has in view is the extension of learning and education among the Muhammadans and their social improvement. The Committee is composed of respectable and able gentlemen of the Muhammadan community, and is aided in its laudable efforts by the Hindus and Christians of the city.

LOCAL AND MISCELLANEOUS.

The *Agra Akhbār* of the 20th June in an editorial calls the attention of Government to the harm which cultivators do to the roads lying outside the city. To water their fields lying on the sides of a road they cut drains through it, and do not fill them up again properly. The writer suggests that the village police should be held responsible for seeing that the roads are properly repaired by cultivators, care being taken that the police shall not use their powers oppressively.

The *Anjuman-i-Hind* of the 24th June also very bitterly complains of the disgraceful and neglected state of roads in the country, and is unable to understand to what purpose the road-tax collected by Government from the remainder with the land revenue is devoted.

LIST OF PAPERS EXAMINED.

NAME.	DATE.
	1876.
Nafa-ul-Azīm,	June, 13th
Akhbār-i-'Alam,	15th
Nasir-ul-Imān,	15th
Gwalior Gazette,	16th
Sadiq-ul-Akhbār,	16th
Martwar Gazette,	18th
Agra Akhbar,	20th
Nafa-ul-Azīm,	20th
Akhbār-i-'Am,	21st
Nasir-i-'Azam,	21st
Rohilkhand Akhbar,	21st
Tahzīb-ul-Ikhlaq,	21st
Nasir-ul-Akhbār,	21st
Nasir-ul-Islām,	21st
Mohar Durukhshan,	21st
Mahad Akhbar,	21st
Akhbār-i-'Alam,	22nd
Benares Akhbar,	22nd
Kayasth Samachar,	23rd
Anjuman-i-Panjāb,	23rd
Khair Khwah 'Alam,	23rd
Lauh Mahfaz,	23rd
Albert Gazette,	23rd
Social Science Congress Gazette,	23rd
Adib-i-'Alam,	23rd
Aligarh Institute Gazette,	23rd
Anand Lahari,	23rd
Meerut Gazette,	24th
Khair Khwah-i-Hindustān,	24th
Khair Khwah-i-Hind,	24th
Nar-ul-Anwar,	24th
Rafah-e-'Am,	24th
Jalwa-i-Tar,	24th
Rohilkhand Akhbar,	24th
Tohfid-i-Kashmir,	24th
Anjuman-i-Hind,	24th
Panjābi Akhbar,	24th
Rahbar-i-Hind,	24th
Urdū Akhbar (Akola),	24th
Koh-i-Nar,	24th
Najm-ul-Akhbar,	24th
Vakil-i-Hindustān,	24th
Gwalior Gazette,	25th
Akmal-ul-Akhbar,	25th
Lamāh-i-Nur,	25th
Oudh Akhbar,	25th
Sadiq-ul-Akhbar,	26th
Vrit Dhara,	26th
Kavi Vachan Sudha,	26th
Khair Khwah, Oudh,	26th
Dabada-i-Sikandari	26th

DATE.	NAME.	DATE.
June,	Karnal,	1876.
" "	Panipat Akbar,	" "
" "	Muzbi-Nar,	" "
" "	Bahadur-i-Hind,	" "
" "	Laurance Gazette,	" "
" "	Nagari Azam,	" "
" "	Nagari Gazette,	" "
" "	Akbar-i-Azam,	" "
" "	Oudh Akbar,	" "
" "	Laurance Gazette,	" "
" "	Taj-ul-Akbar,	" "
" "	Nar-i-Afshan,	" "
" "	Oudh Akbar,	" "
" "	Nar-i-Afshan,	" "
July,		" "

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